

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
OCTOBER 20, 2020**

**ITEM 6**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST FOR THE NORTH COAST REGION AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED 303(d) PORTION OF THE 2018 CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED REPORT

**DISCUSSION**

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to identify waters that do not meet applicable water quality standards after technology-based controls have been implemented and to prioritize those waters for total maximum daily load development, unless other corrective action is appropriate (commonly referred to as the “303(d) list”). Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to report on the overall condition of its surface waterbodies (commonly referred to as the “305(b) report”). California combines its 303(d) lists and 305(b) reports into a single “California Integrated Report.”

The 303(d) list requires approval by the State Water Resources Control Board (“State Water Board”) and approval by United States Environmental Protection Agency (“U.S. EPA”). Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 305(b) report, which is an informational document that characterizes the state’s general water quality conditions. Generally, the State Water Board does not solicit comments or respond to comments pertaining to the portion of the California Integrated Report comprised of the 305(b) report.

The Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California’s Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List (“Listing Policy”) describes the process by which the Regional and State Water Boards develop the 303(d) list.

The 2018 Integrated Report updates the 2014/2016 Integrated Report for the State of California. The portion of the 2018 California Integrated Report comprised of the 303(d) list is primarily a compilation of the 303(d) lists from the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (“Regional Water Boards”) for the North Coast, Lahontan, and Colorado River regions. In addition, the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Central Valley, and San Diego Regional Water Boards conducted assessments for one or more waterbodies within their respective regions, and those listing recommendations are included in the 2018 California Integrated Report.

The State Water Board is administering the listing process on behalf of the North Coast Regional Water Board in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Listing Policy. For the North Coast 303(d) list, the State Water Board held a hearing to receive oral

comments. For both the North Coast and statewide 303(d) lists, the State Water Board received written comments and responded to comments that were timely received.

During this item, the State Water Board will consider adopting the proposed Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List for the North Coast Region, which, upon adoption, shall be consolidated into the 2018 California Integrated Report and submitted to U.S. EPA without further consideration. Also, during the public meeting, the State Water Board will consider approving the proposed 2018 Statewide Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for all portions of the state except the North Coast Region.

The proposed 2018 California Integrated Report, Staff Report, and all fact sheets can be found at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_quality\\_assessment/2018\\_integrated\\_report.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2018_integrated_report.html)

## **POLICY ISSUE**

Should the State Water Board adopt the proposed 303(d) list for the North Coast Region and should the State Water Board approve the statewide 303(d) list portion of 2018 California Integrated Report and authorize the Executive Director or designee to transmit the proposed 2018 California Integrated Report and other supporting information to U.S. EPA for approval of the statewide 303(d) List?

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The State Water Board and Regional Water Board staff work associated with or resulting from this action will be addressed with existing and future budgeted resources.

## **REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

Approval will primarily affect the North Coast, Lahontan, Colorado River, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Central Valley, and San Diego Regional Water Boards.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the State Water Board adopt the proposed 303(d) list for the North Coast Region and approve the 303(d) list portion of the 2018 California Integrated Report and authorize the Executive Director or designee to transmit the proposed 2018 California Integrated Report and other supporting information to U.S. EPA for approval of the 303(d) list.